- 1 ALDERSON REPORTING COMPANY
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- 3 HJU073000
- 4 MARKUP OF H.R. 1067, TO ENACT TITLE 36, UNITED STATES CODE,
- 5 PATRIOTIC AND NATIONAL OBSERVANCES, CEREMONIES, AND
- 6 ORGANIZES, AS POSITIVE LAW;
- 7 H.R. 1068, TO ENACT TITLE 54, UNITED STATES CODE, NATIONAL
- 8 PARK SYSTEM, AS POSITIVE LAW;
- 9 H.R. 258, THE STOLEN VALOR ACT OF 2013, AND
- 10 H.R. 1073, THE NUCLEAR TERRORISM CONVENTIONS IMPLEMENTATION
- 11 AND SAFETY OF MARITIME NAVIGATION ACT OF 2013
- 12 Thursday, March 14, 2013
- 13 House of Representatives
- 14 Committee on the Judiciary
- 15 Washington, D.C.
- 16 The committee met, pursuant to call, at 10:09 a.m., in
- 17 Room 2141, Rayburn Office Building, Hon. Bob Goodlatte

- 18 [chairman of the committee] presiding.
- 19 Present: Representatives Goodlatte, Sensenbrenner,
- 20 Issa, Conyers, Scott, and Jackson Lee.
- 21 Staff present: Shelley Husband, Majority Staff
- 22 Director; Branden Ritchie, Deputy Chief of Staff; Allison
- 23 Halataei, Parliamentarian; Kelsey Deterding, Clerk; Perry
- 24 Apelbaum, Minority Staff Director; and Danielle Brown,
- 25 Minority Parliamentarian.

27 Chairman Goodlatte. Good morning. The Judiciary will come to order. And there is a working quorum present, and 28 pursuant to notice, I now call up H.R. 1067 for purposes of 29 30 markup. And the clerk will report the bill. Ms. Deterding. H.R. 1067, to --31 32 Chairman Goodlatte. Without objection, the bill will be 33 considered as read and open for amendment at any point. 34 [The information follows:]

36 Chairman Goodlatte. And I will begin by recognizing

- 37 myself and the ranking member for opening statements.
- 38 Congress has charged the Office of the Law Revision
- 39 Counsel with the ongoing responsibility of preparing a
- 40 complete compilation, restatement, and revision of the laws
- 41 of the United States.
- 42 The committee has jurisdiction over law revision bills,
- 43 and the Law Revision Council has provided us with bill
- 44 language for the two codification bills that we will mark up
- 45 today. H.R. 1067 makes technical revisions to Title 36, the
- 46 title governing patriotic observances and ceremonies to keep
- 47 the title current and make technical corrections and
- 48 improvements. This bill is identical to the version the
- 49 House passed last year, which was not acted upon by the
- 50 Senate.
- 51 H.R. 1067 is an important bill because it ensures that
- 52 the U.S. Code is up to date and usable. For these reasons, I
- 53 urge my colleagues to support this legislation.
- 54 And I now recognize the gentleman from Michigan, Mr.
- 55 Conyers, for his opening statement.
- Mr. Conyers. Thank you, Chairman.
- 57 H.R. 1067 was prepared by the Office of Law Revision

- 58 Council as part of its ongoing responsibility under 2 U.S.C.
- 59 Section 285(b) to prepare and submit to the Committee on the
- 60 Judiciary, one title at a time, a complete compilation,
- 61 restatement, and revision of the general and permanent laws
- 62 of the United States.
- 63 This bill gathers provisions relating to patriotic and
- 64 national observances and ceremonies, patriotic and national
- 65 organizations, and treaty obligation organizations under the
- 66 current Title 36. The amendments strike the existing
- 67 abbreviated table of contents of the title and insert a more
- 68 comprehensive title-wide table of contents, update the format
- 69 of chapter headings of reserved chapters, and make other
- 70 necessary technical corrections.
- 71 H.R. 1067 is not intended to make any substantive
- 72 changes in the law. As is typical with the codification
- 73 process, a number of non-substantive revisions are made,
- 74 including the reorganization of sections into a more coherent
- 75 overall structure. But these changes are not intended to
- 76 have any substantive effect.
- 77 I am pleased to join with the chairman and urge my
- 78 colleagues to support this legislation, particularly because
- 79 of the strong bipartisan support that has been gathered for

80 it.

- 81 Thank you, and I yield back.
- 82 Chairman Goodlatte. I thank the gentleman. Are there
- any amendments to H.R. 1067?
- If not, the chair would call for a vote on reporting the
- 85 bill favorably to the House.
- Those in favor will say aye?
- Those opposed, no?
- In the opinion of the chair, the ayes have it, and
- 89 members will have 2 days to submit their views. Oh, yeah,
- 90 right, and the bill is ordered reported favorably.
- 91 Members will have 2 days to submit their views.
- 92 [The information follows:]

94 Chairman Goodlatte. We will now turn to H.R. 1068. And

- 95 pursuant to notice, I call up H.R. 1068 for purposes of
- 96 markup.
- 97 The clerk will report the bill.
- 98 Ms. Deterding. H.R. 1068, to enact Title 54, United
- 99 States Code, National Park Service and related programs as
- 100 positive law.
- 101 Chairman Goodlatte. Without objection, the bill will be
- 102 considered as read and open for amendment at any point.
- 103 [The information follows:]

105 Chairman Goodlatte. And I will begin by recognizing

- 106 myself and the ranking member for opening statements.
- 107 H.R. 1068 enacts laws related to the National Park
- 108 System in a new Title 54. Until now, laws relating to the
- 109 organization and management of the National Park System have
- 110 been classified as part of Title 16, Conservation, and not in
- 111 one distinct place, but rather dispersed throughout the
- 112 title. Over time, these code classifications have become
- 113 very cumbersome to use.
- 114 H.R. 1068 gathers provisions relating to the National
- 115 Park System and restates them as a new positive law title of
- 116 the United States Code. H.R. 1068 includes minor changes
- 117 relative to the version passed last Congress because
- 118 additional laws regarding the National Park System have been
- 119 enacted since then. However, all changes made by H.R. 1068
- 120 are purely technical in nature.
- 121 Like H.R. 1067, H.R. 1068 will ensure that the U.S. Code
- 122 is up to date, accurate, and usable, and for these reasons I
- 123 urge my colleagues to support this bill.
- 124 And I turn now to the gentleman from Michigan, Mr.
- 125 Conyers, for his opening statement.
- 126 Mr. Conyers. Thank you again, Chairman Goodlatte, and

127 my remarks are similar to that of the previous piece of

- 128 legislation.
- 129 We are doing much the same thing. I just wanted to
- 130 point out that in the 111th Congress, I along with then
- 131 Ranking Member Lamar Smith introduced H.R. 6161, which would
- 132 have enacted Title 54 into positive law. We re-introduced
- 133 the bill in the 112th Congress. It was reported favorably by
- 134 the committee and passed the House.
- As in both Congresses, the bill is non-controversial and
- 136 has strong bipartisan support.
- 137 Since the mid-19th century, numerous relating to the
- 138 organization and management of the National Park System by
- 139 the National Park Service have been enacted. These laws have
- 140 been codified in scattered sections in Title 16 of the United
- 141 States Code. And in addition as laws relating to the Park
- 142 System were amended, the new laws were enacted pertaining to
- 143 these provisions. The Code classifications have become
- 144 cumbersome to use.
- 145 H.R. 1068 is not intended to make any substantive
- 146 changes in the law. As is typical with the codification
- 147 process, a number of non-substantive revisions are often
- 148 made, including reorganization of sections into a more

149 coherent overall structure. But these changes are not

- 150 intended to have any substantive effect.
- 151 I thank the chairman for his cooperation in bringing the
- 152 bill before the committee today and urge its support. Thank
- 153 you.
- 154 Chairman Goodlatte. I thank the ranking member.
- 155 Are there any amendments?
- Hearing none, the question is on reporting the bill
- 157 favorably to the House.
- 158 Those in favor, say aye?
- Those opposed, no?
- The ayes have it, and the bill is ordered reported
- 161 favorably.
- Members will have 2 days to submit views.
- [The information follows:]

165 Chairman Goodlatte. We are now going to skip to H.R.

- 166 1073, the Nuclear Terrorism Conventions Implementation and
- 167 Safety of Maritime Navigation Act of 2013.
- Pursuant to notice, I call up the bill, and the clerk
- 169 will report the bill.
- Ms. Deterding. H.R. 1073, to amend Title 18, United
- 171 States Code, to provide for protection of maritime navigation
- 172 and prevention of nuclear terrorism.
- 173 Chairman Goodlatte. Without objection, the bill is
- 174 considered as read and open for amendment at any point.
- 175 [The information follows:]

177 Chairman Goodlatte. And I will recognize myself and the

- 178 ranking member for opening statements.
- 179 H.R. 1073 of the Nuclear Terrorism Conventions
- 180 Implementation and Safety of Maritime Navigation Act of 2013
- 181 is bipartisan legislation to ratify certain provisions of 4
- 182 multilateral counterterrorism treaties. Similar legislation
- 183 was unanimously forwarded by the committee and passed by the
- 184 House by voice vote last Congress.
- 185 Terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass
- 186 destruction do not recognize international boundaries. These
- 187 treaties are important tools to fight against terrorism.
- 188 Each one builds on an existing treaty to which the United
- 189 States is a party.
- 190 The treaties and this legislation complement important
- 191 U.S. priorities to prevent nuclear terrorism, counter
- 192 proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and
- 193 counterterrorism initiatives. Enacting this implementing
- 194 legislation will reinforce the United States' leadership role
- 195 in promoting these and other counterterrorism treaties, and
- 196 will likely prompt other countries to join.
- 197 In addition to bolstering broad security and
- 198 proliferation prevention goals, these protocols help to

199 promote implementation of certain sanctions against rogue

- 200 regimes that are hostile to U.S. interests.
- 201 The previous Administration strongly supported approval
- of these agreements, which have already received Senate
- 203 advice and consent. The current Administration wants to
- 204 advance this legislation so the United States maintains its
- 205 leadership role in counter nuclear proliferation efforts and
- 206 in terrorism prevention.
- 207 Advancing this legislation strengthens international
- 208 cooperation and information sharing as it relates to
- 209 international terrorism and proliferation of weapons of mass
- 210 destruction.
- 211 I am pleased to be an original co-sponsor of this
- 212 bipartisan legislation and would like to thank Chairman
- 213 Sensenbrenner for his leadership on this effort. I would
- 214 also like to thank Ranking Member Conyers and Ranking Member
- 215 Scott for their contribution to this important legislation.
- 216 I urge my colleagues to join in favorably reporting H.R.
- 217 1073 from the committee today.
- 218 And I now recognize the gentleman from Michigan, Mr.
- 219 Conyers, for his statement.
- 220 Mr. Conyers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There seems to

221 be a great deal of cooperation in the air. I also join the 2

- 222 gentlemen that have helped bring this forward, Jim
- 223 Sensenbrenner and Bobby Scott, for holding hearings on this
- 224 important legislation last Congress, and for their continued
- 225 leadership on the issue.
- This measure, Nuclear Terrorism Conventions
- 227 Implementation and Safety Act, is designed to implement f4
- 228 multilateral counterterrorism treaties, each an important
- 229 update to existing international law.
- Our country signed each of these treaties in 2005. The
- 231 Senate unanimously passed resolutions of advice and consent
- on all of them in 2008. Nevertheless, we cannot ratify these
- 233 agreements until Congress amends the Federal Criminal Code to
- 234 bring it in line with our new obligations.
- 235 H.R. 1073 does just that. It amends Title 18 of the
- 236 Code to explicitly prohibit acts of terrorism involving
- 237 radioactive material, provide new security requirements for
- 238 the use and storage of nuclear materials, and address the use
- 239 of ships and offshore platforms in terrorist attacks.
- 240 With the cooperation of the Department of Justice, the
- 241 bill is also free of proposed language that seemed entirely
- 242 to us outside the scope of underlying treaties. For example,

243 the Administration's original proposal expanded the scope of

- 244 conduct subject to the death penalty, including new wiretap
- 245 predicates, and authorized the President to conduct similar
- 246 agreements in the future without congressional approval.
- 247 These controversial provisions are not necessary in
- 248 order to implement the underlying treaties, and I am grateful
- 249 for the spirit of cooperation in which the bill before us has
- 250 been drafted. Bobby Scott, once again, of Virginia was very
- 251 important on this particular provision. He insisted upon it,
- 252 and carried the day with it. We thank him.
- 253 The resulting bipartisan proposal has the full backing
- 254 of the Obama Administration, is virtually identical to a bill
- 255 that passed by voice vote in this committee and House last
- 256 Congress. And accordingly, I urge all the members to support
- the bill.
- 258 And I yield back the balance of my time. Thank you.
- 259 Chairman Goodlatte. I thank the gentleman.
- 260 The chair now recognizes the sponsor of the legislation
- 261 and chairman of our Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism,
- 262 Homeland Security, and Investigations, Mr. Sensenbrenner, for
- 263 his opening for his statement.
- Mr. Sensenbrenner. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

I am pleased to join with you and the ranking members of both

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266 the full and subcommittees in introducing this bill. It is 267 bipartisan. It is the result of months of work by both the 268 majority and minority committee staff and the cooperation of 269 the Departments of Justice and State. 270 The legislation implements obligations of important 271 international agreements that improve our efforts to protect 272 the United States from terrorist attacks, specifically 273 against attacks using weapons of mass destruction or 274 terrorism involving ships or maritime platforms. Full 275 ratification of the underlying treaties will not be achieved 276 unless the Congress amends existing criminal provisions of 277 the United States Code. 278 Last Congress, the subcommittee held a hearing on these issues and the need for the legislation. Witnesses from the 279 280 Departments of Justice and State explained the importance of 281 the 4 underlying agreements, 2 of which concern nuclear and 282 radiological materials, and the sabotage of nuclear 283 facilities, and the protection of nuclear facilities and 284 materials used for peaceful purposes. The other 2 treaties 285 relate to the use or targeting of ships or maritime platforms 286 as a part of a terrorist attack, the transporting of certain

287 materials by ship for terrorist purposes, then the 288 transporting of terrorists by ship, among other things. 289 As the witnesses at our hearing explained, to combat 290 these threats effectively, we need not only to complete a 291 domestic legal framework, but also a broad international 292 legal framework to facilitate international cooperation. 293 Existing law may cover certain obligations under the 294 treaties, but in order to fully and ultimately ratify them, parties to the agreements are required to criminalize certain 295 296 conduct and to fulfill extradition requirements and other 297 obligations relating to international cooperation. 298 The treaties themselves were modified to cover gaps in their original draft. For example, one of the treaties 299 300 concerning the physical protection of nuclear materials originally covered, only protection during the international 301 302 transport. And amendment to that treaty now requires 303 protecting domestic nuclear facilities and materials. 304 Acceptance of the underlying treaty benefits our country 305 in many ways. For instance, the parties to the underlying treaties are required to criminalize certain acts committed 306 by persons who possess or use radioactive materials or 307 308 nuclear device. And parties are obligated to extradite or

309 prosecute alleged offenders. As they relate to maritime

- 310 terrorism, the underlying the treaties treat vessels and fix
- 311 maritime platforms as a potential means of covering terrorism
- 312 activity and not just as objects of terrorist activity.
- 313 Passing the legislation and ultimately ratifying the
- 314 underlying treaties will ensure that our country stays at the
- 315 forefront of the global counterterrorism and counter
- 316 proliferation efforts. The measures are consistent with our
- 317 domestic efforts to improve homeland security and better
- 318 international cooperation.
- 319 And I urge my colleagues to support the bill and yield
- 320 back the balance of my time.
- 321 Chairman Goodlatte. I thank the gentleman.
- 322 And the chair now recognizes the ranking member of the
- 323 Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and
- 324 Investigations, the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. Scott, for
- 325 his opening statement.
- 326 Mr. Scott. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
- 327 Mr. Chairman, the treaties referred to by the chairman,
- 328 ranking member, and chair of the subcommittee requires
- 329 specific provisions in the bill before these treaties can be
- 330 ratified, and the legislation has been fully described.

331 I just want to reemphasize what the ranking member has 332 indicated. The original proposal had extraneous materials in 333 it. Because of the cooperation from both sides of the aisle, 334 the legislation now only contains those provisions necessary 335 for the ratification of the treaties. And so I urge my 336 colleagues to support the legislation. 337 I yield back. Chairman Goodlatte. I thank the gentleman. Are there 338 any amendments? 339 340 Hearing none, a reporting quorum being present, the 341 question is on reporting the bill favorably to the House. Those in favor, say aye? 342 Those opposed, no? 343 344 The ayes have it, and the bill is ordered reported favorably. 345 Members will have 2 days to submit views. 346 [The information follows:] 347

349 Chairman Goodlatte. Pursuant to notice, I now call up 350 H.R. 258 for purposes of markup. 351 And the clerk will report the bill. 352 Ms. Deterding. H.R. 258, to amend Title 18, United 353 States Code, with respect to fraudulent representations about 354 having received military declarations or medals. 355 Chairman Goodlatte. Without objection, the bill will be 356 considered as read and open for amendment at any point. 357 [The information follows:]

359 Chairman Goodlatte. And I will begin by recognizing 360 myself and the ranking member for an opening statement. 361 In October 2009, the U.S. combat outpost, Keating, in 362 Afghanistan was attacked by more than 300 Taliban insurgents 363 bearing rocket propelled grenades, mortars, machine guns, and 364 other arms. After several hours of fighting, the Taliban 365 insurgents breached the compound and set fire to it. Among the many heroes that day as Staff Sergeant Clinton 366 367 Romesha. During the battle in which U.S. troops were greatly 368 outnumbered, Staff Sergeant Romesha moved under heavy enemy 369 fire to seek reinforcements from nearby barracks, then returned to battle where he took out an enemy machine gun 370 team. Staff Sergeant Romesha was struck in the hip, arm, and 371 372 neck by shrapnel from a rocket propelled grenade while he 373 attempted to take out another enemy team. 374 Despite this injury, Romesha kept on fighting. He 375 exposed himself to additional enemy fire several times that day as he destroyed enemy targets, including 3 Taliban 376 fighters who had breached the outpost. Romesha also directed 377 air support to destroy over 30 enemy fighters and pushed 378 forward under heavy fire to recover the bodies of fallen U.S. 379 380 soldiers.

381	Staff Sergeant Romesha's extraordinary efforts
382	ultimately helped to re-secure combat post Keating. His
383	actions, which exemplify the very highest levels of strength,
384	honor, valor, and dedication to both his country and his
385	fellow comrades, were recognized on February 11, 2013, when
386	he was awarded the Medal of Honor.
387	In 1861, Congress established the Medal of Honor to
388	recognize those like Staff Sergeant Romesha who have
389	distinguished themselves conspicuously by gallantry and
390	intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call
391	of duty.
392	Nearly a century ago, Congress made it a crime to wear,
393	manufacture, or sell military decorations or medals without
394	authorization. Despite this, the number of people
395	fraudulently claiming to be the recipient of military
396	decorations has increased in recent years. In my home State
397	of Virginia alone, over 600 residents falsely claimed on tax
398	forms to be recipients of the Medal of Honor in just 1 year,
399	even though at the time there were only living recipients in
400	Virginia, and 132 nationwide.
401	To address this increase in fraudulent claims, in 2006,
402	Congress enacted the Stolen Valor Act, which expands the

403 penalties for falsely representing oneself as a recipient of 404 any medal of honor authorized by Congress for the armed 405 services. 406 In June 2012, the Supreme Court in U.S. v. Alvarez, held that the act inappropriately criminalized speech protected by 407 408 the First Amendment. The simple act of lying, even about 409 receipt of a military decoration, is by itself protected 410 speech. The Court did not that in periods of war and peace alike, public recognition of valor and noble sacrifice by men 411 and women in uniform reinforces the pride and national 412 413 resolve the military relies upon to fulfill its mission. 414 The Court also acknowledged that false claims about military decorations, such as the Medal of Honor, which has 415 416 been awarded fewer than 4,000 times since its creation in 1861, demean the high purpose of such awards. While this 417 418 harm does not overcome the high level of scrutiny afforded 419 protected speech, the Court did find that where false claims 420 are made to effect a fraud or secure monies or other valuable 421 considerations, say, offers of employment, it is well 422 established that the government may restrict speech without affronting the First Amendment. 423

H.R. 258m, the Stolen Valor Act of 2013, clarifies the

425 law to prohibit people from falsely claiming to be a

- 426 recipient of the Medal of Honor and other military
- 427 decorations in order to carry out a fraud. This bill has
- 428 strong bipartisan support, and similar legislation was passed
- 429 by the House with overwhelming support last Congress.
- 430 I commend our colleague from Nevada, Mr. Heck, for his
- 431 leadership on this important issue, and I urge my colleagues
- 432 to join me in favorably reporting this bill from the
- 433 committee.
- 434 And at this time, I call upon the ranking member, the
- 435 gentleman from Michigan, Mr. Conyers, for his opening
- 436 statement.
- 437 Mr. Conyers. Thank you, Chairman Goodlatte.
- This is an important bill because it upholds the
- 439 integrity of military medals and decorations, as well as
- 440 corrects a constitutional flaw in a statute intended to
- 441 protect the integrity of these honors. Without question, all
- 442 who serve our Nation deserve to be honored, and those who
- 443 have gone beyond their peers in serving our Nation deserve
- 444 special recognition.
- I am going to yield the rest of my time to my colleague
- 446 from Virginia, who has worked very hard on the bill, and

close by just saying that as a Korean veteran myself, I have a particular interest and concern for this measure.

- 449 I yield now to the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. Scott.
- Mr. Scott. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank the ranking
- 451 member for yielding.
- 452 This legislation is an appropriately limited measure to
- 453 constitutionally prohibit anyone seeking money, property, or
- 454 other tangible benefit by fraudulently representing that they
- 455 have been awarded a U.S. military medal or decoration.
- 456 Our military personnel, as the chairman has indicated,
- 457 honor us with their sacrifices and with their service. Some
- 458 make the ultimate sacrifice, and there are not enough words
- 459 to thank them for what they do. When a member of our armed
- 460 services commits a particularly heroic act or engages in a
- 461 particularly dangerous course of action, we often award them
- 462 with a medal or decoration. They have earned that honor from
- 463 the commanding officers and from the American people.
- When someone falsely claims to have been awarded such an
- 465 honor, they offend us. And several years ago we passed
- 466 legislation prohibiting such offensive false claims.
- 467 However, the Supreme Court reminded us that the First
- 468 Amendment protects even the most offensive speech.

Consistent with that protection, Justice Kennedy's majority

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470 opinion in U.S. v. Alvarez found that the Stolen Valor Act 471 was constitutionally flawed, and he stated, "Though few may 472 find the respondent's statements anything but contemptible, 473 his right to make those statements is protected by the 474 Constitution's guarantee of freedom of speech and 475 expression." However, Justice Kennedy gave us clear guidance on how 476 we could amend the statute, while respecting the First 477 478 Amendment. He said, "Where false claims are made to effect a 479 fraud or secure monies or other valuable considerations, such as offers of employment, it is well established that the 480 481 government may restrict speech without affronting the First 482 Amendment." Pursuant to that specific guidance from the majority opinion, this bill only applies to representations 483 484 which are fraudulent and made with the intent to obtain 485 tangible benefits. I commend my colleagues in the majority for developing 486 487 the bill in consultation with the minority, which led to the 488 approval by voice vote in the committee last August and an 489 overwhelming vote on the floor last September.

Unfortunately, the Senate did not take up last year's bill,

491 and beginning a new Congress, we have to pass new legislation

- 492 for this Congress.
- So I support this bill and urge my colleagues to approve
- 494 the bill.
- 495 I yield back.
- 496 Mr. Conyers. I yield.
- 497 Chairman Goodlatte. I thank the gentleman.
- 498 Without objection, a statement for the record submitted
- 499 by Congressman Joe Heck, the sponsor of the legislation, will
- 500 be made a part of the record.
- [The information follows:]

503 Chairman Goodlatte. Are there any amendments to H.R.

- 504 258? The gentleman from California.
- 505 Mr. Issa. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move to strike the
- 506 last word.
- 507 Chairman Goodlatte. The gentleman is recognized for 5
- 508 minutes.
- 509 Mr. Issa. I will not take that long. Mr. Chairman, I
- 510 do not have any great awards, but correcting this for all of
- 511 us who have served in the military so that when someone makes
- 512 a claim and intends to gain as a result of that claim beyond
- 513 those who honestly served at a low level, a medium level, or
- 514 who gave the last full measure, in fact, is essential.
- 515 So I commend the chairman and the ranking member for
- 516 bringing this back. I would only say that we have a long
- 517 history in Congress. We have people who have risen to the
- 518 rank of congressman by claiming false valor. And that
- 519 represents exactly the kind of wrongdoing that I hope, in
- 520 fact, is contemplated by this bill, that a \$174,000 a year
- 521 salary and a title of honor would equally be covered under
- 522 this law. And I would yield to the chairman to see if that
- 523 is his understanding.
- 524 Chairman Goodlatte. That is indeed my understanding,

- 525 and I thank the gentleman for his observation.
- 526 Mr. Issa. Reclaiming my time, I thank you for this
- 527 important legislation and yield back.
- 528 Chairman Goodlatte. I thank the gentleman. The
- 529 gentlewoman from Texas, for what purpose do you seek
- 530 recognition?
- 531 Ms. Jackson Lee. To ask unanimous consent to speak 2
- 532 minutes.
- 533 Chairman Goodlatte. The gentlewoman is recognized for 5
- 534 minutes.
- 535 Ms. Jackson Lee. To speak to this gentleman's bill, to
- 536 compliment the gentleman. But anyhow, I thank the chair for
- 537 recognizing, and I sort of associate myself with Mr. Issa on
- 538 the importance and the honor of these awards. We have had
- 539 stories of individuals representing to communities or using
- 540 it in reference to their promotion. And I really think that
- this is worthy of acknowledging the hard work of Mr. Scott.
- 542 And I might also put on the record, Mr. Chairman, we do
- 543 not have jurisdiction over this issue. But I do hope the
- 544 appropriate jurisdictional committees can answer and put the
- 545 appropriate balance between those who are acting through
- 546 drones, which raises their own concerns, but to those who

have been in combat in a different format. I understand that 547 548 has raised concern. 549 And I just wanted to put on the record that I think 550 those who raise the concern are correct, and I hope that we 551 can appropriately address that question in a bipartisan 552 manner so that we can handle honor in the appropriate way 553 that I should be honored. 554 This is fixing an issue that I think should be fixed, and the gentleman should be complicated. And I rise to 555 556 support the legislation. 557 I yield back. 558 Chairman Goodlatte. I thank the gentlewoman. 559 Are there any amendments to H.R. 258? 560 A reporting quorum being present, the question is on 561 reporting the bill favorably to the House. Those in favor will say aye? 562 Those opposed, no? 563 564 The ayes have it, and the bill is ordered reported 565 favorably.

Members will have 2 days to submit views.

[The information follows:]

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Chairman Goodlatte. This concludes our business today.

- 570 I want to thank all the members for the bipartisan work to
- 571 prepare and report these bills. And I thank all of you for
- 572 attending as well.
- 573 The meeting is adjourned.
- [Whereupon, at 10:40 a.m., the committee was adjourned.]